

families in our country who need a voice in Washington, DC.

Mr. President, I yield back the remainder of time and ask for the yeas and nays.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there a sufficient second?

There appears to be a sufficient second.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nomination of HILDA L. SOLIS, of California, to be Secretary of Labor?

The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk called the roll.

Mr. DURBIN. I announce that the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) and the Senator from Massachusetts (Mr. KENNEDY) are necessarily absent.

I further announce that, if present and voting, the Senator from Iowa (Mr. HARKIN) would vote "yea."

The result was announced—yeas 80, nays 17, as follows:

[Rollcall Vote No. 66 Ex.]

#### YEAS—80

Akaka	Feingold	McConnell
Alexander	Feinstein	Menendez
Barrasso	Gillibrand	Merkley
Baucus	Graham	Mikulski
Bayh	Grassley	Murkowski
Begich	Gregg	Murray
Bennet	Hagan	Nelson (FL)
Bennett	Hatch	Nelson (NE)
Bingaman	Hutchison	Pryor
Boxer	Inouye	Reed
Brown	Isakson	Reid
Brownback	Johanns	Rockefeller
Burris	Johnson	Sanders
Byrd	Kaufman	Schumer
Cantwell	Kerry	Shaheen
Cardin	Klobuchar	Snowe
Carper	Kohl	Specter
Casey	Landrieu	Stabenow
Chambliss	Lautenberg	Tester
Cochran	Leahy	Udall (CO)
Collins	Levin	Udall (NM)
Conrad	Lieberman	Voinovich
Corker	Lincoln	Warner
Dodd	Lugar	Webb
Dorgan	Martinez	Whitehouse
Durbin	McCain	Wyden
Enzi	McCaskill	

#### NAYS—17

Bond	DeMint	Sessions
Bunning	Ensign	Shelby
Burr	Inhofe	Thune
Coburn	Kyl	Vitter
Cornyn	Risch	Wicker
Crapo	Roberts	

#### NOT VOTING—2

Harkin	Kennedy
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The nomination was confirmed.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the motion to reconsider is considered made and laid upon the table. The President will be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senate will resume legislative session.

The Senator from Washington is recognized.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to go to a period for morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### AARON EILERTS DAY OF SERVICE AND GIVING

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, I wish to visit with you about volunteerism. I wish to use the example of a deceased Boy Scout as the perfect example.

Today is the day we Iowans honor the life and legacy of a young Boy Scout—a compassionate teenager who lived his life in passionate service to others. Mr. President, 14-year-old Aaron Eilerts from Eagle Grove, IA, tragically lost his own life last summer when a deadly tornado swept through Camp Little Sioux on January 11, 2008. One Iowan, Aaron, and three Nebraska boys lost their lives that evening.

Fifteen years ago today, Bob and Carol Eilerts experienced the overwhelming joy and elation that parents treasure the day their child is born. The Eilerts undoubtedly took pride in shouldering the responsibilities and sacrifices that parenthood brings. It was not long before his parents would realize their beloved son spread joy in service to others, in ways big and small, with family, friends, neighbors, the elderly, and even total strangers.

As a Boy Scout, Aaron took to heart the tenets of his organization. Through words and deeds, he upheld the Boy Scout Law, which prescribed a Scout as "trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent." Every Boy Scout knows those words.

By all accounts, Aaron Eilerts lived and breathed the objectives of an honorable Boy Scout, which included character development, citizenship, and personal fitness. As a parent and grandparent, I can appreciate the demands placed on our youth to excel in academics, navigate social pressures, participate in extracurricular activities, and to just "be."

Similar to many young people growing up in small town Iowa, Aaron's extensive list of activities was impressive. Besides the Humboldt Boy Scout Troop 108, Aaron participated in football, cross country, track, band, choir, theater, and art. Aaron also was an agent of the CIA; that is, "Character in Action," a youth leadership character-building organization at Robert Blue Middle School. With so many irons in the fire, it is even more remarkable to consider the time and energy Aaron devoted in service to others.

Consider a few of the community service projects this industrious 14-year-old organized: hand-sewing pillowcases for pediatric patients, teachers, and others in need; making blankets for animals at the Humane Society; volunteering at the local senior center and nursing home; performing the National Anthem at local high school events; and making it a habit to do great deeds and simple acts of kindness just to make his community a better place to live.

We can honor his legacy of service by following in the footsteps of this local teenage legend. The Governor of Iowa, Chet Culver, has proclaimed today, February 24, as the first annual Aaron Eilerts Day of Service and Giving. Scores of schools and service organizations across the State of Iowa have made plans to participate. Inspired by this young man's spirit of service, thousands of school students across Iowa will seize this opportunity to make their community a better place.

Just a few of the service projects underway today include shoveling snow; sewing pillowcases to donate to hospitals, veterans facilities, and nursing homes; creating fleece tie blankets for shelters; packaging meals in a box for local food pantries; conducting food and diaper services and drives that are connected with that; and pumping gas and cleaning windshields at local service stations.

The Bible tells us in Acts 20:35:

It is more blessed to give than receive.

Many of us who contribute time, talents, and treasure in service to others often find we are the ones who are blessed by giving. If I may suggest, I believe Aaron Eilerts, if he were alive today, would agree.

Although he did not share the world stage of Mother Teresa, who devoted her life to poverty in service to others, Aaron showed his compassion for others on the stages of his hometown, from the senior centers, to hospitals, school and community events. Mother Teresa is attributed with an observation that applies so well to this young man from Eagle Grove. Mother Teresa said:

Do not wait for leaders. Do it alone, person to person.

Aaron Eilerts was a product of small-town Iowa—a small town that took pride in its community, and he took pride in his community. Eagle Grove takes pride in this young man, Aaron Eilerts, who was killed last June.

I would like to extend, again, my sincerest condolences to the family and loved ones Aaron Eilerts has preceded into God's Kingdom. I also would like to take this opportunity to extend an invitation to my fellow citizens from the other 49 States. I welcome you to join the State of Iowa, and Iowans generally, next year on February 24 to participate in the annual Aaron Eilerts Day of Service and Giving, as declared by Governor Culver of my State of Iowa.

Tragic circumstances abbreviated the life of this young Iowan with no warning and with no opportunity for second chances.

Let Aaron's life and legacy of service inspire each of us to respond in our own neighborhoods and communities to the call of service of giving.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM "BILL"  
RAGGIO

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to honor my longtime colleague in Nevada government, State senator William "Bill" Raggio, for his extensive record of public service and community activism.

At this year's Governor's Points of Light Award Dinner, Senator Raggio will be honored with the inaugural "Governor's Choice Award." This award, which will be formally presented by Governor Jim Gibbons on February 26, recognizes Senator Raggio for his commitment to community improvement through volunteerism and philanthropy.

A longtime resident of Nevada, Bill has been a devoted and active member of his community. As a young man during World War II, Senator Raggio served his community and his country honorably as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. Upon return, he graduated from the University of Nevada at Reno before pursuing a law degree.

Since that time, Bill has been a tireless advocate for the people of Nevada. He has served on the ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals and also as the district attorney for Washoe County. In 1973, Bill made the jump to the State senate, where his career has flourished and continues today. He has worked in various capacities in the State's legislative body, and is currently the minority leader of the senate.

I can think of no better recipient of the "Governor's Choice Award" than Senator Raggio. His 36 years of public service and selfless sacrifice are an example of how a single person can be an overwhelming influence for good in his community. There is no doubt that his wife Dale and their children are extremely proud of him. Indeed, all Nevadans have reason to be proud of Senator Raggio.

I congratulate Senator Raggio upon receiving this tremendous honor, and wish him all the best in his future undertakings.

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, strong leadership at the Department of Labor is essential as the economy continues to worsen.

Workers who are struggling need leaders who have been there, who know what it is like to grow up in a working class household. HILDA SOLIS is the right person to run the most important federal agency for workers who need a helping hand. I strongly support her nomination.

Congresswoman SOLIS grew up in southern California and has for decades fought for the rights of working men and women.

While a member of the California State Senate she led the fight in 1996 to increase the State minimum wage.

Since her election to Congress in 2000, she has cochaired the bipartisan Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and played a key role in the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act in 2006.

Last year she helped lead the effort to provide workforce training for "green collar" jobs.

She is also a nationally recognized leader on the environment, and for that she became the first woman to receive the John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Award in 2000.

Congresswoman SOLIS has articulated a strong vision for the Department. She is ready to lead the Department's efforts in: training and job placement for unemployed workers; building career ladders for at-risk youth, and expanding opportunities for our military heroes returning from combat.

Over 2.6 million workers have lost their jobs since this recession began, and the end is not yet in sight.

America needs an active Department of Labor to help these workers retrain for the economy of the 21st century and find new work.

America needs HILDA SOLIS to take charge of the Labor Department and to get to work today.

I urge my colleagues to support her nomination.

COMMITTEE ON BANKING, HOUSING,  
AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
RULES OF PROCEDURE

Mr. DODD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the rules of procedure for the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

RULES OF PROCEDURE FOR THE COMMITTEE ON  
BANKING, HOUSING, AND URBAN AFFAIRS  
RULE 1. REGULAR MEETING DATE FOR  
COMMITTEE

The regular meeting day for the Committee to transact its business shall be the last Tuesday in each month that the Senate is in Session; except that if the Committee has met at any time during the month prior to the last Tuesday of the month, the regular meeting of the Committee may be canceled at the discretion of the Chairman.

RULE 2. COMMITTEE

[a] Investigations. No investigation shall be initiated by the Committee unless the Senate, or the full Committee, or the Chairman and Ranking Member have specifically authorized such investigation.

[b] Hearings. No hearing of the Committee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia except by agreement between the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

[c] Confidential testimony. No confidential testimony taken or confidential material presented at an executive session of the Committee or any report of the proceedings of such executive session shall be made public either in whole or in part or by way of summary, unless specifically authorized by the Chairman of the Committee and the Ranking Member of the Committee or by a majority vote of the Committee.

[d] Interrogation of witnesses. Committee interrogation of a witness shall be conducted only by members of the Committee or such professional staff as is authorized by the Chairman or the Ranking Member of the Committee.

[e] Prior notice of markup sessions. No session of the Committee or a Subcommittee for marking up any measure shall be held unless [1] each member of the Committee or the Subcommittee, as the case may be, has been notified in writing via electronic mail or paper mail of the date, time, and place of such session and has been furnished a copy of the measure to be considered, in a searchable electronic format, at least 3 business days prior to the commencement of such session, or [2] the Chairman of the Committee or Subcommittee determines that exigent circumstances exist requiring that the session be held sooner.

[f] Prior notice of first degree amendments. It shall not be in order for the Committee or a Subcommittee to consider any amendment in the first degree proposed to any measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee unless fifty written copies of such amendment have been delivered to the office of the Committee at least 2 business days prior to the meeting. It shall be in order, without prior notice, for a Senator to offer a motion to strike a single section of any measure under consideration. Such a motion to strike a section of the measure under consideration by the Committee or Subcommittee shall not be amendable. This section may be waived by a majority of the members of the Committee or Subcommittee voting, or by agreement of the Chairman and Ranking Member. This subsection shall apply only when the conditions of subsection [e][1] have been met.

[g] Cordon rule. Whenever a bill or joint resolution repealing or amending any statute or part thereof shall be before the Committee or Subcommittee, from initial consideration in hearings through final consideration, the Clerk shall place before each member of the Committee or Subcommittee a print of the statute or the part or section thereof to be amended or repealed showing by stricken-through type, the part or parts to be omitted, and in italics, the matter proposed to be added. In addition, whenever a member of the Committee or Subcommittee offers an amendment to a bill or joint resolution under consideration, those amendments shall be presented to the Committee or Subcommittee in a like form, showing by typographical devices the effect of the proposed amendment on existing law. The requirements of this subsection may be waived when, in the opinion of the Committee or Subcommittee Chairman, it is necessary to expedite the business of the Committee or Subcommittee.

RULE 3. SUBCOMMITTEES

[a] Authorization for. A Subcommittee of the Committee may be authorized only by the action of a majority of the Committee.

[b] Membership. No member may be a member of more than three Subcommittees and no member may chair more than one Subcommittee. No member will receive assignment to a second Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members of the Committee have chosen assignments to one Subcommittee, and no member shall receive assignment to a third Subcommittee until, in order of seniority, all members have chosen assignments to two Subcommittees.

[c] Investigations. No investigation shall be initiated by a Subcommittee unless the Senate or the full Committee has specifically authorized such investigation.

[d] Hearings. No hearing of a Subcommittee shall be scheduled outside the District of Columbia without prior consultation with the Chairman and then only by agreement between the Chairman of the Subcommittee and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee or by a majority vote of the Subcommittee.